cruitment procedures. It has not been possible to regularise any of the leigible daily wage workers in the Coast Guard Headquarters due to the non-availability of vacancies.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

Vehicles Developed by Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur

3855. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur has developed its own prototypes in 0.5 Ton and 2.5 Ton class which meet the G.S.Q.R. of new generation vehicles required by the Army; and

(b) whether these prototypes have fared well?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur has offered prototype vehicle in 0.5 Ton and 2.5 Ton category against the G.S.Q.R. of new generation vehicles required by the Army. The performance of these vehicles will be known after completion of the User-trials which are in progress.

Election to Cantonment Boards

3856. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the election to 62 Cantonment Boards were held on 2nd February, 1992;

(b) whether any complaint from the public of Danapur Cantonment was submitted to the President, Danapur Cantonment on 22nd January, 1992 and 29th January, 1992 regarding alleged threats to the voters and Candidates of the Ward No. 5 of Danapur Cantonment, with fire arms;

(c) whether it is also a fact that on 2nd February, 1992 (election day) the voters were chared at pistol point and a number of bombs were exploded in ward No. 5; and

(d) if so, the steps taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Election to 56 Cantonment Boards were held on 2-2-1992.

(b) Two complaints, dated 22-1-92 and 29-1-92 were received from one Shri Ram Naresh Prasad, a resident of Saguna, Danapur Municipality addressed to the President, Cantonment Board, Danapur, *inter alia* containing alleged threats to voters and candidates by Shri Manoj Kumar a contesting candidate from Ward No. 5 Danapur Cantt and his supporters. CEO Danapur, took up the matter with the SDO, Danapur, and also with the complainant and advised all concerned to maintain peace.

(c) and (d) No such report has been received from the President, Cantonment Board. The election to Cantonment Board, Danapur, was held smoothly.

Weeding out of Naval Vessels

3857. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of of the naval vessels presently in service are in the process of being weeded out;

(b) if so, what is the number of naval frigates to be weeded out within the next three to five years and the number by which the strength of the naval vessels would be reduced as a consequence thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the deficiency in the naval fleet is not likely to be met due to resources crunch;

(d) if so, what would be the gap between the weeding out and the induction of new naval vessels; and

(e) what would be its likely impact on the combat efficiency of naval force and what action Government proposes to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) The force levels of the Indian Navy are being developed in accordance with a Long Term Perspective Plan (LTPP) and the Five Year Naval Plans which take into account the geopiotical environment in the region., the maritime interests of the country, the types of operations that the Indian Navy would be called upon to perform, and the availability of funds. The Government ensure that the Indian Navy is maintained in a state of full preparedness for meeting any eventuality that may arise. Further details cannot be disclosed in the interest of national security.

Export by BEL

3858. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of decline in the BEL, export orders for Defence at the